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BY CAROLYN CLICK

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John Oliver says he's not in the business to contact the dead, but the  
Earlsville teenager acknowledges that his psychic powers have been in demand  
lately. The 19-year-old Oliver, who publishes his own financial newsletter and  
teaches classes on ESP, has helped police throughout the state on missing  
person's investigations. Currently, he is helping the Richmond police to help  
solve a missing child case. "I always tell them, 'Don't take me too  
seriously,'" says Oliver, who has helped North Carolina authorities find a  
missing man and predicted the death of Uri Andropov. Oliver says everyone has  
the capacity to develop their psychic powers. "It's something everybody can  
do," says Oliver, although he has little respect for spiritualists who claim  
they can contact the dead. "Who cares? What difference does it make if you  
don't know who you are now?" he says. Oliver's efforts have garnered the  
attention of the CIA — agents visited his home last year and ran him through  
a battery of tests.

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*EXCERPTED*